

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COURT OF APPEALS**

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PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v

WILLIAM COLE GRANT,

Defendant-Appellant.

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UNPUBLISHED

May 1, 2001

No. 214941

Livingston Circuit Court

LC No. 97-010185

AFTER REMAND

Before: Bandstra, C.J., and Cavanagh and Zahra, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

We remanded this matter to the trial court for purposes of a hearing to determine whether counsel was effective in representing defendant at trial. Specifically, we directed that “inquiry . . . should be limited to defendant’s claims of failure to interview witnesses” which resulted in counsel being “ignorant of evidence that would have been of substantial benefit to the defense.” *People v Grant*, unpublished opinion per curiam of the Court of Appeals, issued May 16, 2000, p 3 (Docket No. 214941). On remand, the trial court held hearings on three separate occasions and determined that the evidence that might have been produced through further interviewing of witnesses would not have been of substantial benefit to the defense. Having conducted a de novo review of the record, we agree with the trial court’s conclusion. See *People v Johnson*, 125 Mich App 76, 81; 336 NW2d 7 (1983) (ineffective assistance cannot be found for failing to interview witnesses unless their testimony would have been of substantial benefit). We conclude that defendant’s claim of ineffective assistance of counsel is without merit.

We affirm.

/s/ Richard A. Bandstra

/s/ Mark J. Cavanagh

/s/ Brian K. Zahra